



Cleaning and Disinfecting of Childcare Environments During COVID-19 Response

Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

Things to Clean and Disinfect in Daycare Environments

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- Staff should clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, playrooms, cribs, bedding, bathrooms, and common play areas).
 - Focusing on frequently touched surfaces.
 - Doorknobs
 - Counters
 - Changing tables
 - Toys
 - Light switches
 - Faucet handles
 - Toilets
 - Tablets
 - Keyboards
 - Crib railings
- Always clean from least contaminated (light switches, doorknobs) to most contaminated (faucet, handle, toilet) area.

How to Clean and Disinfect:

- **Surfaces:**
 - If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water before disinfection.
 - Provide disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces (e.g., keyboards, desks, remote controls) can be wiped down by students and staff before each use.
 - For disinfection, the items listed below should be effective:
 - Diluted household bleach solutions,
 - **Diluted household bleach solutions** can be used if appropriate for the surface.
 - Check the product expiration date, to ensure it has not passed. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
 - **Never** mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
 - **Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:**
 - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water; OR
 - 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water.
 - Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, AND
 - Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants
 - [Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims](#) are expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for harder to kill viruses.

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).
- **For soft (porous) surfaces** such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes.
 - Remove visible contamination if present.
 - Clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.
 - After cleaning:
 - If the items can be laundered,
 - Launder items in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - Use the warmest appropriate water setting for the items.
 - Dry items completely.
 - If the items cannot be laundered,
 - Use products with the EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims ([examples at this link](#)) that are suitable for porous surfaces.
- **Laundry:** Linens, Clothing, and Other Items That Go in the Laundry –
 - **Do not shake dirty laundry;** this minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
 - Wash items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - If possible, launder items
 - Using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items
 - Dry items completely.
 - Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an ill person **can be washed with other people's items.**
 - Clean and disinfect hampers or other carts for transporting laundry according to guidance above for hard or soft surfaces.

What to Wear While Cleaning and Disinfecting:

- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
 - Cleaning staff should wear gloves (disposable or reusable) and may consider gowns for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.
 - Gloves and gowns should be compatible with the disinfectant products being used.
 - Additional PPE might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash.
 - Gloves and gowns should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area. Be sure to **clean hands immediately** after removing gloves.
 - Follow these five steps every time.
 - **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
 - **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
 - **Scrub** your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
 - **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
 - **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

- **Hand Hygiene**

- **Cleaning staff and others should [clean](#) hands often.**
 - Including immediately after removing gloves
 - Additional key times to clean hands include:
 - After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - After using the restroom
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - After contact with animals or pets
 - Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child)
- **Clean hands by washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds.**
 - If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%-95% alcohol may be used.
 - If hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water.
- Follow normal preventive actions while at work and home, including cleaning hands and avoiding touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

[The following guidance has been taken from the CDC Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations. Interim Recommendations for US Community Facilities with Suspected/Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)